

The Sun.

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Joe Wheeler, American.

In a speech at Nashville on Thursday last Gen. JOE WHEELER said:

"The history of the last 500 years has conclusively shown that colonial governments alone can retain permanent control of foreign lands. I am a firm believer that it will be in our power to install the principles of American civilization in the peoples of the Philippines."

Gen. WHEELER is proud of his country and believes in its capacity to extend to other peoples its institutions and its civilization. The opponents of expansion doubt or deny this capacity. The noisiest of them never miss an opportunity to sneer at the United States, to impute corruption and ignorance and base motives to its public men, to insist that it is tainted and incompetent. They are not proud of their country. They are ashamed of it. As they distrust the ability of Americans to rule themselves at home, they naturally distrust their ability to rule other people. If American self-government is such a shameful failure, they ask, why try to extend it?

JOE WHEELER, like GEORGE DEWEY, believes in the American people. He believes that the annexation of the Philippines will be advantageous to the United States and that the introduction of American civilization will be advantageous to the inhabitants of the Philippines.

The country has just voted to sustain the views of WHEELER, DEWEY, and McKINLEY.

A Significant Fact.

It is significant that in calculating the Republican and sound-money majority in the House of Representatives all hands agree in putting against it the whole body of the Democrats, Populists and so-called Silver Republicans combined as a solid Bryanite fusion.

When the Associated Press was circulating its reports of a fictitious Democratic majority it included with the Democrats their Populist and Silver Republican allies as a matter of course. At no time, except when the Democrats were most hopeful before the election, was there any expectation of a Democratic majority otherwise. All the fictitious reports after the election, contrived by the Associated Press to bolster up the hopes of Democrats and terrify the financial markets, were based on the falsification of returns of the Congress elections, with a view to making it appear that the fusion of Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans would be in control of the House as a compact silverite and Bryanite combination. The Democratic delegation from New York was included in it, along with the rest. The Democrats specifically never had a chance, never a hope of winning a majority by themselves.

Democratic papers professing sound-money principles exulted over the triumph as represented by the fictitious Associated Press despatches. The bogus Democratic victory they published was based on a Bryanite combination only, in which, as we have said, it was assumed, and doubtless with good reason, that the solid Democratic delegation from this city would join.

Happily for the honor and prosperity of this country, the majority in the House of Representatives is incontestably Republican, and consequently favorable to the security of business and finance. Wall street, which on Wednesday was disturbed by anxiety caused by the false and malicious Associated Press reports, was buoyant on Thursday when the absolute accuracy of THE SUN's truthful returns of election night was established beyond the possibility of doubt or question.

The incident, however, has served to make it manifest that in both the public mind and the estimate of all the Democratic papers, whatever their professions as to the currency, a victory for a Populist or a silverite Republican is as distinctively a Democratic triumph as the election of a Representative regularly labelled as Democratic. They are still bound together in the same tight alliance which they made in 1896. As one army they were beaten at the polls on Tuesday last.

Germany and Spain.

It seems to be settled that the German Emperor, on his return voyage from the Holy Land, will stop at a Spanish port. He may, possibly, accept an invitation to go to Madrid. Should he have an interview with the Queen Regent, there is no doubt that he will be implored to employ his influence to avert from Spain the loss of the Philippine Islands, or, at least, to procure for her some compensation that she shall deem adequate. Is such a request likely to be granted?

It is natural enough that Spaniards should answer the question in the affirmative. They know that Kaiser WILLIAM II. is credited with a chivalrous disposition, not by any means impervious to sentimental considerations or insensible to feminine appeals. They know, also, that he is inclined to please his ally, FRANCIS JOSEPH, and that the fate of the Hapsburg Princess, who is now Queen Regent of Spain, is viewed with the liveliest concern at the Imperial Court of Vienna. It is no less plain to them that the ownership of islands which occupy an important strategic position with relation to a sovereign who, by his seizure of Kiao Chou, seemed to give proof of personal designs upon the Middle Kingdom. That the German Emperor desires insular possessions in the Far East was shown by his energetic, but, as it turned out, unsuccessful, attempt to acquire the Carolines. Should the German Emperor enable Spain to retain the Philippines, she could afford to attest her gratitude by ceding to him one or more of the islands. Should he, on the other hand, assist her to sell them at a price which she might deem satisfactory, she would still have in her power to reward him with the gift of the whole or a part of the Caroline archipelago.

It is, therefore, easy to understand why many people at Madrid believe that both sympathy and self-interest will prompt the German Kaiser to heed the Queen Regent's request, so far as to essay a diplomatic intervention on her behalf.

When, however, we survey the matter closely and coolly, we can discern no sufficient reason for expecting any such move upon the Kaiser's part. It is certain that no such step was contemplated when he left Berlin on his journey to the Orient, otherwise his Ministry of Foreign Affairs would have been denied, as it did deny on Nov. 10, the report that Germany would protect, should the deliberations of the Paris Peace Conference result in the cession of the Philippines to the United States. Nothing has occurred since to change the resolution previously formed, unless a proposal of intervention has been secretly made by the German Emperor. Even such a proposal would probably be rejected on several grounds: First, Germany, as a manufacturing and commercial nation, has less to gain by the exploitation of the single province of Shan-Tung than by keeping the greater part of the Middle Kingdom open to trade. If she had to choose between the alternatives, it would be better for her to give back Kiao Chou than to see the whole of China eventually occupied by a rigorously protectionist power like Russia. She will not be reduced to such a choice, however, if, henceforth, she shall make up her mind to coöperate with England, for then she can both keep her sphere of influence in Shan-Tung and retain access to every Chinese port except Tientsin, which is actually in the hands of England.

Secondly, once made up her mind that her commercial interests in the Far East are identical with those of England, Germany must recognize, as England does, that the acquisition of the Philippines by the United States would represent a decisive addition to the strength of the powers committed to the policy of the "open door." It is indisputable that Great Britain, Germany and the United States combined could, even without the aid of Japan, frustrate the plans of Russia and France for the further dismemberment of China. So far, then, as his paramount interests on the western shore of the Pacific are concerned, the German Emperor should welcome the proximity of Americans, while, if he considers that he needs one or more coaling stations, these can be cheaply bought in the Carolines. Thirdly, Germany, as an island or two would cost WILLIAM incomparably less than would a war against the United States.

As for sentimental considerations, there is no reason to suppose that Kaiser WILLIAM II. is more or less callous to them than are most sovereigns. Manifestly, he was not swayed by them in the case of the Armenian Christians, neither has he taken any part in the final proceedings by which the Turkish troops have been compelled to withdraw from Crete. No doubt he feels and will express sympathy for the Queen Regent, CHRISTINA, who sees her treasury threatened with bankruptcy and her son's throne in peril, but not on that account will he expose German commerce, now so prosperous, and German colonies, so lately won, to the risks of a maritime war. He would gladly, no doubt, use his influence to thwart Carlist plots, and may even do so some day, but relief by proposing to buy the Carolines, where his subjects already have some valuable trade concessions. Here, however, his demonstrations of good will are likely to stop. The precise terms of the Anglo-German agreement are as yet unpublished, but we know that, in pursuance of that agreement, Kaiser WILLIAM II. threw over the Transvaal. The awakening to his true interests which brought about that change of front may be also expected to cause him to follow England's lead in the matter of the Philippines.

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Baseball.

Before long the head men of the National League Baseball Clubs will have to discuss again with each other methods of making the national game orderly and decent. The way to restore order is to suppress disorder. That is to be done by having upon the field at every game a man charged with the task of keeping order, clothed with full authority for that purpose, and rigidly held to his duty. Such a person presides over every human contest short of war, where the God of Battles decides, and he is known as an umpire.

To a people immensely interested and highly trained in physical games, and boiling with sporting blood, this would sound like a superfluous repetition of sports a B. C. But such has been the ruffianism and anarchy of baseball as managed by the society of National League Presidents, that the elemental principles of athletic competition must be told and retold to them as if to children, until they come to know that they must be observed.

Wrangling with the umpire must be abolished, and, to accomplish that, two influences that have kept it alive must be overcome.

The first has been treachery among the club men themselves. For example, FREEMAN of New York signed an agreement to enforce the rules for order, and then kept his men up to the top notch of rowdiness and independence of the umpire, and the majority of the clubs followed suit. A belief has prevailed, probably as a result of habit, that a stiff argument with the umpire against every unfavorable decision enlivens the players that engage in it and helps to win games. Let the belief in wrangling as a stimulus be well or ill founded, wrangling must be abolished.

The second obstacle to decent baseball is a certain parrot voice of the situation held by enough newspapers to keep in countenance the rowdy players and Presidents. We will give in some fulness the very finest example of it that has come before us, a recent portion of our esteemed contemporary the *Boston Herald*:

"There is another point to be considered. It is discipline among the players. In this is comprehended rowdiness upon the field. Complaints on this point have been continued the present year. Some of them are well founded, but we have had little of this trouble in Boston. We have reached the conclusion that the cause of it is not all with the players. The umpires themselves are in part responsible for it. Umpires must be meted with no indulgence is so good, and who have so far a manner upon the field that the questioning of their decision is seldom seen. We are inclined to have charity for a player also who is very sure he has made a point, and who is not alone, unless, if he breaks out in some expression of feeling. There is human nature in this, and unless he is truly and abjectly meek, he will not be easily and abjectly meek. A good umpire knows how to deal with it without adopting the manner of tyrannical or indignant severity when a more considerate treatment will have better results. Now, we doubt the wisdom of emphasizing outbreaks upon the field unless they take on a clearly dangerous character."

This is rowdiness pure and simple, if unconnected. For a player to insist that what the umpire called a strike was a ball, or that he was safe or a runner out, is only "some expression of feeling." It

is simply "human nature," to be treated with lenity, unless the man is "ugly or abusive." Not wrangling, but unseemly manner in wrangling, calls for rebuke. Outbreaks upon the field should not be noticed seriously unless they take on a character "clearly dangerous," or, we suppose, homicidal. Only "some of the complaints" against the anarchy that has disgraced the game this season are well founded; most of them ought not to have been made. In Boston there was only a "little of this trouble," evidently not too much, in the *Herald's* opinion. The players are "not all to blame," the umpires are "in part responsible." Good umpires, of fair manner, see their decisions questioned "seldom."

No other great scientific genius ever turned aside from his work to devote means for putting an end to war. Others have invented guns, armor, explosives, and other accessories of war, but even in these cases the inventions were in a line with work in which the inventors were already engaged. Mr. TESLA's first design was to apply his method of control to such engines as automobile torpedoes, and to use these to destroy the Spanish fleets, but as he went on, the broader idea came to him to make his war machine so irresistible as to render war itself impossible.

The Defective Flue.

About this time, as the old-fashioned almanacs used to express it, look for conflagrations from defective flues. Usually, it is the church, the sexton of which wakes up a roaring fire in his furnace on Saturday evening, and goes home, leaving it to burn in full fierceness so as to have the building nice and warm on Sunday morning. The flue gets overheated, and overheats the contiguous woodwork, and by the time the congregation assembles, the entire building is in a blaze. Besides churches, country houses are frequent victims of disasters proceeding from a similar cause. The furnace, or the kitchen fire, is driven to its utmost at the approach of winter, to warm the house or to cook a dinner for a large party of guests; the red-hot flue sets fire to the beams and floors through which it passes, and the whole house goes up in smoke. In this way, the residence at Westbury, L. I., occupied by Mr. CLARENCE MACKAY, was burned on Monday evening; and that of Mr. GEORGE D. EVERTS, in the same neighborhood, met a similar fate. Mr. DURAN EVERTS, Mr. CLARENCE MACKAY, Mr. CONNELL'S dwelling at Westbury, Mr. CONNELL'S VANDERBILT'S at Newport, Mr. VAN RENSSELAER CRUGER'S at Oyster Bay, are also illustrations of the mischief of which defective flues are capable.

Speaking correctly, it is not the flue, in these cases, which should be condemned as defective, but the construction of the woodwork about it. A defect in a flue would, by itself, merely permit heat and smoke to escape, and would do no other damage. Only when the escaping products of combustion find their path a beam or a floor plank can they create a conflagration. Not the mason, therefore, but the carpenter, and the architect who stands behind both, deserve blame for the catastrophe which occurs in consequence of their neglect or their ignorance.

No wooden building, or building into the construction of which wood enters largely, is safe against defects in chimney flues so long as any part of its woodwork touches or even lies near the chimney. The habit which builders have of laying brick hearths upon wooden beams and of trusting to the non-conductive power of the bricks to protect the beams from ignition, and the equally dangerous practice of allowing the ends of beams to be separated from flues by the thickness of a single brick, are the sources of most of the fires ascribed to defective flues. Safety can be assured only by using iron or stone in proximity to all chimneys, and now that iron beams are as cheap as wooden, there is no excuse for not employing them.

The Army in the War.

A generation has passed since the Adjutant-General's Department has had the statistics of a war to present, and Gen. CORBIN's current annual report accordingly gives in interest over the reports of his predecessors.

It appears that in August last the regular army reached a strength of 2,323 officers and 53,365 men, and the volunteers a strength of 8,785 officers and 207,244 men. The aggregate was 274,717 officers and men, and a remarkable fact is that the total of deaths from all causes between May 1 and Sept. 30, reported up to Oct. 8, was only 107 officers and 2,803 men, or an aggregate of 2,910. When we consider the extent and splendor of the results achieved by this war, the prestige of our arms and the territory we have added to the country, when we remember also the previous dread of the results of summer campaigning in the Antilles, this low death rate for our victorious army seems to us perhaps the most striking record in this report.

The forces sent to Manila up to the end of October numbered 74 officers and 17,623 men. The strength of the Porto Rico army in August was 641 officers and 16,332 men, while Gen. SHAFTER had in Cuba rather more than that. To Hawaii we sent in July 57 officers and 1,494 men. Up to Sept. 17 we had sent home from Cuba 1,163 Spanish officers, 20,974 enlisted men, 331 company of children, 21 priests and 27 sisters of charity.

During the fiscal year reported upon there were 24,248 enlistments and 5,273 reenlistments in the regular army, and over 40,000 "volunteer enlistments" to make up the quota of State troops. About three out of every four applicants were rejected, and of the 29,521 accepted 24,400 were native born, or 87 per cent., and all the others were naturalized citizens. In every sense of the word, then, our regular army is an army of Americans, and we can take the more pride on that account in its splendid achievements.

As to the increase in the line of the army made necessary by the past year's experience and by our new acquisitions, Gen. CORBIN would accomplish it by adding the required number of regiments organized as are the others now in service, with an additional First Lieutenant in each troop, battery, company, adding also a Lieutenant-General, two Major-Generals and four Brigadiers. For the staff he would not recommend any radical reorganization, holding that it did well in the civil war and the Indian campaigns, and that "when the work of the staff departments in this war is more fully understood it will receive the approval of military men and of the people generally." Still, he admits that there can be improvements in the staff in many ways.

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The Sons of Calamity.

Our old friends, the Populists, are fading away rapidly. The State elections in Alabama, Georgia, and Arkansas showed that the number of the faithful was dwindling in the South. The elections last week showed that the brethren in the West are growing weak in the knee. The Populists blossom in adversity, but they cannot stand prosperity. Kansas, which has been for some years the main Populist asylum, is again clothed in its right mind. The crops voted the Republican ticket. In Nebraska, where the Populists had gobbled most of the Fusion State ticket, the Populist strength has perceptibly declined. In North Dakota the sons of calamity have been well drubbed.

In the South the fall of Populism may be ascribed to the similarity or identity of Populism and what BEN TILLMAN calls "the new Democracy," born at Chicago in 1894. There the Democrats profit by the Populist decadence. In the West the Republicans profit. Good times and the promise of better are fatal to Populism, which is a badge of poverty and cranks of the past, and derives its main strength from the degradation of the unprosperous in hard times. For the Kansas Populists have been doing so well in their private affairs that their continuance as a party of doleful dumps is absurd. For the incoherent and the discontent, of socialist aspirations, of the party of financial ills, violent remedies and property hating tendencies, seems destined to be the natural home.

THE SENTIMENT FOR EXPANSION.

The Victory in the Late Election Due to It.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: You are altogether right in attributing Tuesday's great victory for honest money to the popular sentiment in favor of expansion. No one who traveled through the far West during the late campaign, and more particularly over the States beyond the Mississippi, has any doubts on that matter. When President McKinley went to the Omaha Exposition, this prevailing and enthusiastic sentiment was made so manifest that it was evident to all that he was in contact with him that he was strengthened greatly in the purpose to hold the Philippines and to cling tenaciously to all the positions taken by our Peace Commissioners at Paris. I may even say that the revelation of popular sentiment in the West, and the fact that our representatives at Paris will assume to the very end. It made clear to him the course demanded by the broadest and most earnest public sentiment. We shall hold the Philippines.

The consequence of this expansion, appealing to the sentiment of the people, and the American people, will be similar to that which has followed the imperial development of England. It will extend and broaden the public vision and give new and greater dignity to our politics, and bring into public life able and capable men. It will have eliminated the free silver peril in the West, and it will have put into men's minds a conception of more comprehensive politics. They are uplifted by the thought that America has now become a great world power, and that questions involving the development of civilization in the next century, have entered into our political arena. Cheap appeals of petty demagogues will no longer get a hearing. They are outlived by events: bigger and sincerer men are required by public opinion. The people will have more important things to think about than Bryanite Clevelandism and growing. The bear party in politics is down; the bull party is up.

Do you think I exaggerate? Go through the West, and as I have said, more particularly the far West, where the spirit of Americanism has its most unrestrained and genuine expression, and you will think differently. Here Theodore Roosevelt most representative of the national sentiment kindled by the victory over Spain? It is not New York; it is the West. Even here, as Croker says, his election was due to his share in winning that victory, and his expression of that national sentiment in his words and character. He has the confidence of the people. I do not wonder that Dewey telegraphed congratulations to him from the Philippines, and the Admiral expressed the feeling of all his fleet. All America rejoiced.

You write of Watterston's eulogy over the death of "Uncle Sam." It is not included in the eulogy which I have written. Let him sing rather a song of exultation over the close of an era of sham politics. The wretched episode begun in 1884 is closed. We have entered upon an era in which even the memory of that reactionary period will pass as a thing of the past. The men engaged with the consideration of genuine politics of world-wide significance.

New York, Nov. 12.

Navies of England, Russia and France.

1892, yet it was nearly ten years before its value was fully recognized.

The personality of NIKOLA TESLA is as interesting as are the results of his scientific labors. His ways of work differ radically from the methods of those who study by experiment and elimination. TESLA seldom experiments, and when he does it is to prove a theory, not to form one. In eleven years, he says, only one of his experiments has failed. His processes are mental, and at times, he declares, his mind reaches out into fields so vast that he is afraid, and recalls it. He verifies his conclusions afterward by figures and experiments.

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THE SENTIMENT FOR EXPANSION.

1892, yet it was nearly ten years before its value was fully recognized.

The personality of NIKOLA TESLA is as interesting as are the results of his scientific labors. His ways of work differ radically from the methods of those who study by experiment and elimination. TESLA seldom experiments, and when he does it is to prove a theory, not to form one. In eleven years, he says, only one of his experiments has failed. His processes are mental, and at times, he declares, his mind reaches out into fields so vast that he is afraid, and recalls it. He verifies his conclusions afterward by figures and experiments.

No other great scientific genius ever turned aside from his work to devote means for putting an end to war. Others have invented guns, armor, explosives, and other accessories of war, but even in these cases the inventions were in a line with work in which the inventors were already engaged. Mr. TESLA's first design was to apply his method of control to such engines as automobile torpedoes, and to use these to destroy the Spanish fleets, but as he went on, the broader idea came to him to make his war machine so irresistible as to render war itself impossible.

The Defective Flue.

About this time, as the old-fashioned almanacs used to express it, look for conflagrations from defective flues. Usually, it is the church, the sexton of which wakes up a roaring fire in his furnace on Saturday evening, and goes home, leaving it to burn in full fierceness so as to have the building nice and warm on Sunday morning. The flue gets overheated, and overheats the contiguous woodwork, and by the time the congregation assembles, the entire building is in a blaze. Besides churches, country houses are frequent victims of disasters proceeding from a similar cause. The furnace, or the kitchen fire, is driven to its utmost at the approach of winter, to warm the house or to cook a dinner for a large party of guests; the red-hot flue sets fire to the beams and floors through which it passes, and the whole house goes up in smoke. In this way, the residence at Westbury, L. I., occupied by Mr. CLARENCE MACKAY, was burned on Monday evening; and that of Mr. GEORGE D. EVERTS, in the same neighborhood, met a similar fate. Mr. DURAN EVERTS, Mr. CLARENCE MACKAY, Mr. CONNELL'S dwelling at Westbury, Mr. CONNELL'S VANDERBILT'S at Newport, Mr. VAN RENSSELAER CRUGER'S at Oyster Bay, are also illustrations of the mischief of which defective flues are capable.

Speaking correctly, it is not the flue, in these cases, which should be condemned as defective, but the construction of the woodwork about it. A defect in a flue would, by itself, merely permit heat and smoke to escape, and would do no other damage. Only when the escaping products of combustion find their path a beam or a floor plank can they create a conflagration. Not the mason, therefore, but the carpenter, and the architect who stands behind both, deserve blame for the catastrophe which occurs in consequence of their neglect or their ignorance.

No wooden building, or building into the construction of which wood enters largely, is safe against defects in chimney flues so long as any part of its woodwork touches or even lies near the chimney. The habit which builders have of laying brick hearths upon wooden beams and of trusting to the non-conductive power of the bricks to protect the beams from ignition, and the equally dangerous practice of allowing the ends of beams to be separated from flues by the thickness of a single brick, are the sources of most of the fires ascribed to defective flues. Safety can be assured only by using iron or stone in proximity to all chimneys, and now that iron beams are as cheap as wooden, there is no excuse for not employing them.

The Army in the War.

A generation has passed since the Adjutant-General's Department has had the statistics of a war to present, and Gen. CORBIN's current annual report accordingly gives in interest over the reports of his predecessors.

It appears that in August last the regular army reached a strength of 2,323 officers and 53,365 men, and the volunteers a strength of 8,785 officers and 207,244 men. The aggregate was 274,717 officers and men, and a remarkable fact is that the total of deaths from all causes between May 1 and Sept. 30, reported up to Oct. 8, was only 107 officers and 2,803 men, or an aggregate of 2,910. When we consider the extent and splendor of the results achieved by this war, the prestige of our arms and the territory we have added to the country, when we remember also the previous dread of the results of summer campaigning in the Antilles, this low death rate for our victorious army seems to us perhaps the most striking record in this report.

The forces sent to Manila up to the end of October numbered 74 officers and 17,623 men. The strength of the Porto Rico army in August was 641 officers and 16,332 men, while Gen. SHAFTER had in Cuba rather more than that. To Hawaii we sent in July 57 officers and 1,49